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Jewish Religious Life after the Exile; being the Third Series, 1897-98, of "American Lectures on the History of Religions." By REV. T. K. CHEYNE, M.A., D.D., Oriel Professor of Interpretation of Holy Scripture at Oxford. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1898. Pp. xxi + 270. \$1.50.

This is a most fascinating subject for a book, especially when the point of view is that of the modern school which puts about all Hebrew literature into the post-exilic age. Professor Cheyne, of course, represents this point of view—and in its most aggravating form. The reader cannot help feeling some irritation at the boldness of many of the writer's assumptions. To attempt a criticism would lead into a discussion of details which would demand too much space. In general, it may be said that the lectures are full of suggestive hints, but leave no unified impression.

G. S. G.

Suggestive Illustrations on the Acts of the Apostles. By REV. F. N. PELOUBET, D.D. New York: E. R. Herrick & Co., 1898. Pp. iv + 483. \$1.25.

In the present volume we have a collection of illustrations for nearly every verse in the Acts. We do not believe in homiletic dictionaries, and are inclined to believe that any sort of homiletic or exegetical crutch is injurious to the preacher. The present volume, however, is not quite so much exposed to criticism as encyclopædias of illustration, and its quotations are something more than mere anecdotes. Many of them are of good literary value, chosen from a wide range of reading, and, if the book is used as it properly should be used, namely, as a literary stimulus, rather than as a labor-saving device, it is likely to be of help.

S. M.

Magic, Divination, and Demonology among the Hebrews and Their Neighbours, including an Examination of Biblical References and of the Biblical Terms. By T. WITTON DAVIES, B.A., PH.D. London: James Clarke & Co., 1898. Pp. xvi + 132. 3s. 6d.

This book is a Leipzig doctor's thesis. It is our impression that the subject is too large for adequate treatment in the space given. The treatment, however, is learned, and the subject is covered *in extenso*, if not in any sense exhaustively. The most original part of

the book is the discussion of biblical terms, where the author ventures to differ not infrequently with Professors Wellhausen and W. R. Smith. Thoroughly modern is the view that by demon possession, whether in the New Testament or elsewhere, nothing more is meant than certain diseases superstitiously regarded as due to demoniacal influence. One statement for which proof would be hard to find is that the deities of other peoples were by the Hebrews regarded as evil spirits or demons with which magicians and diviners were supposed to traffic. Those who desire the gathering together of the bulk of the material on this subject in a small space will find this little book useful. It may be added that a portion of it was published as an article in the *American Journal of Semitic Languages*, July, 1898. G. S. G.

The Student's Life of Jesus. By GEORGE HOLLEY GILBERT, PH.D., D.D. New York: The Macmillan Co., 1898. Pp. 412. \$1.25.

We have already noticed this admirable handbook, but it is a pleasure to see that it is republished by the Macmillan Co., and thus is likely to get into larger circulation. As we have said before, so we say again, it is the best handbook for the student of the life of Christ in English, and any Sunday-school teacher who really wishes to study the life of Christ sympathetically and intelligently cannot do better than adopt it for class work. S. M.

LITERARY NOTES.

CHARLOTTE M. YONGE has written a characteristic story of the period of the Maccabees, entitled *The Patriots of Palestine* (with illustrations by W. S. Stacey), in which she traces the history of the Maccabean revolt, and with enough of the element of fiction to make the exciting events even more exciting. It would make a good book for a Sunday-school library. (New York: Thomas Whittaker, 1898; pp. x + 263; \$1.25.)

EATON & MAINS published, something more than a year ago, a *Manual of Ecclesiastical Architecture*, by Professor William Wallace Martin (pp. xviii + 429; \$2), and careful examination shows it to be a model of compact statement and clear analysis. Its hundreds of cuts enable the student to appreciate the development of the cathedral as